Deputy Drug Controller (India) (DDC(I). The post remained unfilled from September '1994 due to certain problems pertaining to in-situ promotion Rules vis-a-vis Recruitment Rules for making a regular appointment. However an Assistant Drug Controller attached to Post Office, Chennai was looking after the work of CDSCO, South zone until his death in December, 1997. As an interim arrangement, a Drug Inspector, South Zone is currently looking after the office of CDSCO (South Zone).

(c) As the post of DDC(I), South Zone is deemed abolished in terms of the instructions of the Ministry of Finance for having remained Vacant for more than one year, it will not be possible to fill this post unless it is revived recreated.

Ineffectiveness of T.B. Control Programme

1094. SHRI' NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(b) whether it is a fact that inspite of T.B. control programme of Government of India, there are around 300 million people afflicted with T.B. or related diseases in the country as per the findings of the P.D. Hinduja National Hospital and Medical Research Centre, Mumbai.

(c) if so, how such a situation has arisen and who is responsible for this state of affairs;

(d) what measures, both preventive and remedial, Government are adopting to take care of such agrim situation; and

(d) what is the financial outlay proposed for this in the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In the country 14 million people are estimated to be suffering from Active Tuberculosis. Under the National TB Control Programme, around 14 lakh new TB Cases are reported per year.

(c) To control Tuberculosis, National TB Control Programme is implemented in the country since 1962. "Under the Programme, 446 District Tuberculosis Centres (DTCs) have been established which provide free of cost, diagnostic and treatment facilities, to the community. To cut short one period of treatment, short course Chemotherapy has been intro duced in 292 DTCs.

To achieve a Cure Rate of 85% a Revised National TB Control Programme is implemented in a Population of about 20 million. With World Bank Assistance, this revised strategy will be implemented in 102 Districts of the Country, covering a Population of 271.21 million over a period of 3 years.

Another 203 SCC Districts will be strengthened to adopt the Revised Strategy in future.

(d) The Financial outlay proposed for National TB Control Programme in the 9th Five Year Plan is Rs. 1042 crore.

Consultation Chamber in Dr. R.M.L. and Safdarjung Hospitals

1095. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have opened consultation Chamber in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia and Safdarjung Hospitals for providing special consultation in Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic therapy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether beneficiaries registered in any dispensary in Delhi can go to these hospitals for treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHIL-MALAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is one Clinical Research Unit each of Ayurvedic and Homoepathic functioning in Safdarjung Hospital. One Clinical Research Unit of Unani is functioning at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. Any citizen can avail of the services provided by these units.